

6281

Hello,

I am writing to encourage your support of HB 6281, which would enable people to opt for a \$2.00 donation to support public education for organ and tissue donation when renewing their drivers' licenses or receiving renewals for same.

There are currently over 120,000 Americans waiting for a life-saving organ transplant, yet many will not receive transplants due to the shortage of registered organ donors. Donate Life Connecticut works to raise awareness about this importance of organ donation, as well as clarifying myth versus truth when it comes to organ donation. We believe that when people are educated about organ donation, they are more inclined to register and help save lives should their lives end.

For many, the idea of organ donation is very vague - until it becomes a personal issue. I know people who would not be alive today had someone not given the gift of life. People, for example, with diabetes or high blood pressure who progress to kidney failure can live long lives because of someone's selfless gift. It is not inconceivable that each of us knows someone (or IS that someone) who may one day need a transplant in order to live. Public education is imperative so that fewer people die while waiting for a life-saving transplant.

Please consider supporting this very important bill. Thank you.

Name Cheryl Mitchell